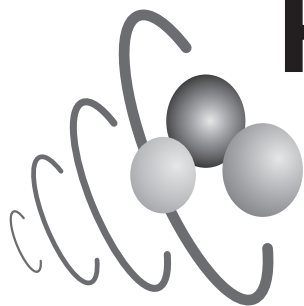


October 2012



# Hearing Loss Association of America

## North Shore Chapter of Long Island

### Meeting Location

Long Island Jewish Hearing & Speech Center is located on the grounds of the Long Island Jewish Medical Center.

Enter the grounds from LAKEVILLE ROAD and it is the first building on your left. Free parking is available behind the hearing and speech building: first entrance to parking lot after building. DO NOT go into the main parking building. Go to the Conference room on the Lower Level  
270-05 76th Avenue  
New Hyde Park, NY 11040.

If you are in doubt as to whether there is a meeting, or if you'd like further information, please call Sal: 718-479-1098.

### FYI

Assistive Listening Devices (ALD) are provided at our meetings. Headphones are available in the back. This room is Looped, so those who have hearing aids/cochlear implants can put on their T-coil switch.

## Meeting News October 17, 2012

Refreshments and Social Time begins 6:30pm

Meeting begins 7:00pm

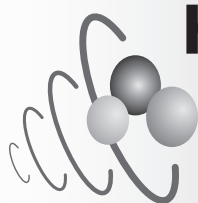
### Topic: "RECLAIM YOUR PHONE – AND YOUR LIFE"

Speaker: Dana Apruzzese, Regional Representative and Outreach Manager

This revolutionary new telephone which will enable you to understand every word of every telephone call with its large caption-enabled screen and custom frequency amplification will be offered FREE TO OUR CHAPTER MEMBERS. A CaptionCall telephone empowers you to communicate more confidently with friends, family, or co-workers. There will be an informative presentation, and hands-on demonstrations which will enable you to experience real-time captioned telephone calling.

This offer includes FREE installation and FREE delivery by a qualified CaptionCall trainer. Also included will be FREE captioning service which is funded by the FCC so there are no new bills and no monthly charges.





# Hearing Loss Association of America

## North Shore Chapter of Long Island

### Chapter Planning Committee

HLAA North Shore Chapter  
Voice: 718-479-1098

Sal Sturiale  
*Chapter President*  
Sturiale@verizon.net

Charlie Kantor  
*Newsletter Editor*

David Siegel  
*Meeting Reporter*

Hilda Drucker  
*Events*

Fred & Ruth Wiener  
*Publicity*

Silvia & David Siegel  
*Hospitality*

Charles Kantor  
*Technology*

### Members:

Ruth Dunitz  
Claire Fox  
Hilda Polonet  
Helmuth Mooreman

*HLAA of North Shore Long  
Island does not necessarily  
endorse the opinions of our  
speakers, goods & services.*

## Our Chapter

I had the good fortune to attend the "Walk4Hearing Kick Off" on the 14th of August. It was held at "Battery Gardens," a restaurant in Manhattan's Battery Park area. The purpose for the gathering was to get people geared up to raise money, spread the word about the walk, and get as many people as possible to attend the walk itself. There were cocktails, lots of food, and lots of people. I am sure there were well over 100 in attendance.

There were several speakers, some of which gave personal accounts of how HLAA has had such a positive effect on their lives; others gave information where the future may bring us and the effort being made to make this organization even greater than it is and others work to inspire us to get the message out: "Lets Step Up for People with Hearing Loss."

Again I was surrounded by people with hearing loss – from infants with Cochlear Implants to the very elderly. There was so much energy in the room you could feel it all around you. When people gather for a cause such as this, it has the power to grow and take on a life of its own. With individuals, teams, and chapters joining in to make this a great success the sky is the limit.

Last year we raised \$170,000 and had 1,200 people at the walk. The goal this year is to raise more money and have more people walk.

The people are the key to success. *Let's make Hearing Loss visible.*

The walk is September 30th. You may receive this newsletter after the walk takes place. Remember, you can never be late in making a donation.

Get involved, make a pledge, and make a difference.

One other thing: Silvia Siegel is retiring from the Board. She has been an active member and a Board member for many years. We could never thank her enough for her support and dedication to HLAA and our chapter. We are looking for someone to step up and fill the void that we have. It just takes a little time and you will get the support you need to get started. Remember: get involved make a difference!

*Sal Sturiale*

# NYC Walk4Hearing

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**Sunday, September 30, 2012**

**Riverside Park W 83rd St. & Riverside Dr.**

**New York City**

**Registration: [www.walk4hearing.org](http://www.walk4hearing.org)**

*\*Everyone can participate!\**

## **Walk with the North Shore Team:**

- Go to [www.walk4hearing.org](http://www.walk4hearing.org)
- Click 'NEW YORK, NY' under 'Fall Walks'
- Click 'REGISTER' over the team scroll
- Click 'JOINING A TEAM'
- Type in North Shore Sandals next to 'ENTER TEAM NAME' and click 'SEARCH'
- Click 'NORTH SHORE SANDALS' in blue
- Click 'JOIN TEAM' and follow the prompts

## **Donate to the North Shore Team:**

Checks of any amount are welcomed! Please make them payable to 'Walk4Hearing', and write 'North Shore Sandals' on the check. Mail checks to: Sal Sturiale, Walk4Hearing, PO Box 583, Glen Oaks, NY, 11004.

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## What You Missed at the September Meeting

*By David Siegel*

Our President Sal welcomed everyone back, including a new member from Glen Oaks and past members from the Huntington Chapter.

The guest speaker, Ms Jeanne Fredrikson, explained about another option available when hearing aids are not enough to improve our hearing. Our very informed speaker has many years of working in the field of hearing loss, first as a teacher and now as a manager from the Med-EL Corporation. During her presentation she showed videos and had hand-outs, and asked members in our chapter to contribute thoughts & questions about their Cochlear implants.

She discussed that if you do not understand speech about 50% of the time, age is not a factor and you may be a candidate for an implantable cochlear device.

Many details of what to expect including about 2 hours of surgery with one day or night in a hospital and about 3 to 6 weeks to start to work programming and rehabilitation.

This was an enriching and well planned discussion about Cochlear implants, and all questions from the members were answered. We hope in the future to invite Ms Fredrikson back to further discuss mapping etc, as she was an excellent speaker.

# Ask the Audiologist

*Jennifer Weitz, Au.D, CCC-A, Doctor of Audiology, Certificate of Clinical Competency from the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association*

**Question:** I have new hearing aids and will be travelling. Can I wear them on the plane?

**Answer:** You can wear your hearing aids in the airport and on the plane. The devices will NOT set off metal detectors. If you are wearing them, they should never be removed to go through security. Hearing aids can easily get lost, mixed-up or left behind if thrown into a change bin or the side pocket of a bag. If you choose not to wear them through security at all, take them off beforehand and put them away safely.

The airplane noise will not damage your hearing – hearing aids have a maximum output level and will not amplify the plane noise to an unsafe level. When all electronic devices need to be powered off during take off and landing, your hearing aids are not included and will not interfere with radar signals. If you have a streaming device such as Phonak's iCom, Oticon's Streamer, a Widex Dex, etc. these SHOULD be powered off until notified by the flight crew that it's OK. While it is always nice to have the devices on, especially if you are flying with a companion, you are not required by any air safety regulations or the airlines to wear them and can choose to leave them out the entire flight.

# Filings Detail Apple's Plans To Improve Support For Hearing Impaired Users

With this fall's launch of iOS 6 set to add support for new "Made for iPhone" hearing aids, a pair of new patent applications offer a glimpse of how Apple could even further benefit users who are hearing impaired. The applications published this week by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office and discovered by *AppleInsider* are entitled Social Network for Sharing a Hearing Aid Setting and Remotely Updating a Hearing Aid Profile. They both describe smart hearing aids that could wirelessly connect to devices to make life easier for users with hearing issues. The applications come as Apple is set to offer built-in support for new "Made for iPhone" hearing aids later this year with the launch of iOS 6. The new hardware accessories will offer compatibility with Apple's latest-generation model, the iPhone 4S.

But Apple's newly published patent applications go much farther than just a certified iPhone accessory. Specifically, the social network patent describes a system through which users who rely on hearing aids could communicate with one another and share information in the interest of improving the overall quality of life of the members. "With the advent of programmable hearing aids whose signal processing can be at least partially modified, what is desired is providing a hearing aid user the ability to modify the audio processing of the programmable hearing aid in the context for which the hearing aid will be used," the filing reads.

Apple's proposed networking system would rely on a user's portable device, like an iPhone, that is connected to their wireless hearing aid. The iPhone would then communicate with other users and share settings so that they might obtain an ideal hearing aid configuration for their current location or activity. Ideal hearing aid settings could also be stored and shared through other devices, like a computer or television set.

The second patent, related to remotely updating the settings on a hearing aid, describes how a system could save different configured profiles for specific circumstances. This would allow the user of a hearing aid "to modify the audio processing of the programmable hearing aid in real time in accordance with the context for which the hearing aid is or will be used."

These stored, quickly selectable profiles could be shared between iPhones in Apple's social networking concept, which could make life easier for users with hearing issues. Both the social networking application and the concept for remotely updating a hearing aid profile were first filed with the USPTO in January of 2011. Both proposed inventions are credited to Edwin W. Foo and Gregory F. Hughes.



# Queen Wears Hearing Protection During Jubilee Concert

*The Hearing Review* - June 7, 2012 (SOURCE: *The Daily Mail*)

Setting an example to her UK subjects, and perhaps the world, Queen Elizabeth II has reportedly worn hearing protection during an all-star rock concert celebrating her 60-year Diamond Jubilee.

A photograph taken from a television and published in Britain's *Daily Mail* shows a yellow earplug nestled inside the royal ears as the Queen listened to songs from Sir Paul McCartney, Sir Elton John, and other notable musicians.

It appears that the Queen is knowledgeable enough about the risks of hearing loss due to excessive noise from rock concerts. Since hearing ability naturally decreases as humans age, even for royalty, perhaps she also wore the protection to preserve her remaining abilities.

According to a recently published House Research Institute (HRI) study, 72% of teenagers participating in the study experienced temporary reduced hearing ability following exposure to a pop rock performance by a popular female singer.

If earplugs are good enough for the Queen of England, maybe younger Baby Boomers, like Prince Charles, will follow her example.

## Joke Corner

An elderly gentleman had serious hearing problems for a number of years. He went to the doctor and the doctor was able to have him fitted for a set of hearing aids that allowed the gentleman to hear 100%.

The elderly gentleman went back in a month to the doctor and the doctor said, "Your hearing is perfect. Your family must be really pleased that you can hear again."

The gentleman replied, "Oh, I haven't told my family yet. I just sit around and listen to the conversations. I've changed my will three times!"

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**Stephan A. Weitz, BC-HIS**

Board Certified Hearing Instrument Specialist  
NYS Licensed Audiologist & Hearing Aid Dispenser

**Jennifer Weitz, Au.D., CCC-A**

Doctor of Audiology  
NYS Licensed Audiologist & Hearing Aid Dispenser



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**HLAA of North Shore Long Island**

Sal Sturiale  
80-38 212 Street  
Hollis Hills, NY 11427

**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**

## **Membership Dues**

Stay abreast of pertinent news and information. Send in your dues today.

Dues include Newsletter.

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